**GST HEADLINES**

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# GST:15 day Slot given for AP Dealers to Register

# *[Source:The Hindu]*

**GST will Result in Higher Tax Burden for Consumers Initially**

# *[Source:Business Line]*

# GST:15 day Slot given for AP Dealers to Register

All the 2.1 lakh dealers in the State and about 28,000 in Visakhapatnam city have to get their provisional registration under the Goods and Services Tax Act, done by January 15.

The Central government has allotted a 15-day time slot period beginning January 1 to Andhra Pradesh, and all the dealers have to visit the site [www.gst.gov.in](http://www.gst.gov.in/) to upload the required documents such as Aadhaar card, PAN card and other details, to get the provisional registration, said Deputy Commissioner Commercial Tax Department K. Nagendra, here on Monday.

According to him, the Commercial Tax Department will send the provisional user id and password for logging into the GST website to the registered email and mobile number of the dealers and they can use the same to login to the site. So far about 60 per cent of the dealers have sent their mobile and email ids to the department and the deadline is Dec. 31.

According to Mr. Nagendra, the constitutional amendment for the GST Bill was passed by Parliament and already approved by majority of the States in the country.

“The Act will come into force from April 1,” he said.

The entire process is online and user friendly. The dealers have been sensitised through a number of workshops and if they still have doubts they can contact the respective Commercial Tax Officers or approach the helpdesk. They can also login to [www.apcity.gov.in](http://www.apcity.gov.in/) for further information, K. Durga Surekha, CTO of Dwarakanagar area, told The Hindu.

Talking on the impact of GST on the State, Mr. Nagendra said the average annual revenue generated from the department was about Rs. 32,000 crore in the State, and the share of Visakhapatnam district was about Rs. 10,000 crore, with Rs. 8,000 crore coming exclusively from the oil sector.

Post GST, the revenue might come down slightly, but the Central government has assured to meet the deficit every two months.

Explaining the GST module, Mr. Nagendra said as of now there are about 12 types of taxes like VAT, Luxury tax and CST and dealers have to file separate returns for each of them. But with the implementation of GST, all the tax components will be withdrawn and there will be just one tax (GST) and the dealers have to file just one return and that to online. The GST collected will be shared between the State and the Centre.

**GST will Result in Higher Tax Burden for Consumers Initially**

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) is not something that consumers could care to wait for as tax practitioners foresee a higher tax burden initially.

“Tax rates may come down later. But in the initial two years, it would put additional burden on consumers,” MVK Murthy, National President of All-India Federation of Tax Practitioners (AIFTP), said.

The federation felt that implementation of GST from April 1, 2017, was not possible. “It might happen in September,” he said.

Stating that there won’t be much difference between the Value-Added Tax (VAT) that was in vogue and GST, he said both systems had multiple tax rates on goods. “Multiple tax rates could lead to disputes on classification of these goods. Also, they have left liquor, tobacco and petroleum, which attract higher tax rates, out of the purview of the GST,” he said.

The services component of GST could end up with higher tax rates for consumers as the initial rate proposed was higher than that charged now.

“The GST is being rolled out in 140 countries but only two countries have dual (Central and State level) GST. India is going to be the third country after Australia and Canada to have such a dual GST system,” he said. Murthy was in the city in connection with the South Zone conference of the federation.

The federation has over 7,000 members from different parts of the country. There are over 3.50 lakh tax practitioners in the country. “A Bill was introduced last year to regulate the tax practitioners,” he said.

He said the process of registration by dealers, traders and tax practitioners was on under the GST regime. The federation has been conducting awareness programmes for traders, dealers and tax practitioners to throw light on the new tax regime.

“As far as trade is concerned, there’s no change in VAT and GST regimes. States are going to lose the power to (levy) tax in the post-GST regime. States will have to depend on the GST Council’s nod on issues related to tax rates,” he said.

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